

A
LETTER

FROM

Amsterdam,

TO A

FRIEND

IN

ENGLAND.

LONDON,

Printed for G. H. 1678.

LETTER

FROM

Amsterdam

TO A

FRIED

IN

ENGLAND.

LO NDO N

Printed for G. H. 1678.

My kind Co-operator,



Hat from you of the eighth Instant I received, and am entirely yours, God speed the Plow here, and in *England*. I hope in short time to give you a good Account of my little Embassy in this place. No body at the *Hague* knows any thing of it yet; nor shall they. Be sure no Post to fail me; else I and my *Fellow-Labourers* here, shall be to seek in our Business. Tell our Friends I cannot go quick and through with it, unless constant returns be made hither, to fill the Bag and the Bottle. These are the Baits that I must fish with: the surest way to catch an *Amsterdamer* is by the Belly.

We were last night no less than *Three Nations* together at Supper; but all of a *Knot*: nothing can untie us but want of Money. My *Seas Pugnitive* was so sharp and quick upon sight of *Fleishment*, that he laid aside his long Grace, and without blessing God, or cursing the Duke of *L.* he fell to, and fed like a Farmer, whilst I, snapping a bit now and then, fell to running up *Old Hock* in *Min Heer* the Burgomaster; for our Companion is of such a humour, that till he be top-full, he never vents his Oracles against the house of *Orange*, and Court of *England*. But in this Pickle, the Man is old dog at driving *Private Trade*, and *Publick Counsels*: So e're Supper was done, we became ripe for business. About half an hour after, came in two or three more of the Magistrates, and with them some *Seats* of the Common Persecution: Then the *Remer* having walkt a round or two more; and our Letters of Intelligence from all parts being read, your Accounts from *England* pleased me best; other from *France* were not much inferiour, and most welcome to *Min Heer*, because at Monsieur *Louvoys* whistles, the *Louvoysian* Party dances. No wonder then that the influence from hence hath made such foul weather at

the *Hague*. That King saw 'twas best way to quit the *Flemish Campaign*, and divert his Army, when less than one quarter of the Charge may save his Stake in *Flanders* till another Season, and perhaps without the striking so much as one stroke, spoil the design of Arms out of *England* and *Holland*.

Had had Intelligence the *Tide* is turn'd in *England*: that whereas last year some of us were for War against him, We now say the Methuens cry is down & I perceive charging of Pistols by a *French hand*, may sometimes do more than all their Cannon: The Court some Months ago were reviled as Men against the War, and *Penfameurs of France*; Now I hear the Court Ministers begin to extort the like jealousy upon you and your Friends: Vex'd by the *Dutch* say, you're either the *Flaming* *Spaniards*, or founded upon *Quick Silver*: and this part of the Continent here, being a Quake mine, is moveable too, though not so quick: The *French* offer now as well as we to the *Shrine of De Witt*, the Martyr and Sain of this Republick; and his *Lowdships* resolve that you and our *Scotch* Friends shall not get All; For they, if they can, will do as much of his business as the best of you: only they take it not well to be so sham'd with that broad Rosy about a pretended Project of Peace between *France* and *England* in favour of the *Swedes*; The *Nassauians* now at the *Hague*, conclude it was but a *French piece of Gallery*, to choke the Current of the *General Confederacy*: A meet State stratagem to blow off the *Prohibition of French Commodities* in this Countrey.

'Twas nearly done, and had like to have taken effect, thanks be to you (SIR) and the rest of your Friends, who gave the occasion of disputing it here, by yoking your selves to the *Prohibition* first, that this State might remain at liberty to surch you afterwards, if they think it convenient. 'Twas delicately done also to worry and hurry one another into Resolutions for a War before you were ready; and now when 'tis resolved on, to clog and clap on Weights to hinder it. At this rate things must needs very kindly operate: Your last hath given me and the rest of your Friends here admirable Satisfaction; go on and prosper in all the particulars of your contrivance; the day's your own: if we can but apply fresh Leeches to the Possiorn of the Kingdom, we shall soon
reco-

recover. Those that are here for the interest of *Republick* will be forward enough too, if *France* be cordial. (which we doubt not) to our Party. He hath his end in it upon them, and us: However, our Brains shall stretch hard; but we will out-reach him. What a fight 'tis to see our Friends in *England*, *Holland*, and *Scotland*, so well twisted! This *Three-fold Cord* is strong enough to hang, or hamper all our Adversaries.

Me thinks I see your Orindees dodged in *Frankle-beds* already; 'twill soon be done; if we first handiomey divide the Countiers, and make use of the envy of some of them at their Fellows; then put them like Pellets to drive out one another.

The doly way to wheedle them into it, is, first by round charges to endeavour a remove of the *Ministers* in possession: 'tis the ready way to come at the Master; the hope of their Places will engage the rest of them to help on this work. Set this wheel a going, and these are the Cogs that will turn round the Mill. What though you have hitherto had but ill luck in lifting at them? If one Broadside do not sink a Vessel, another may. 'twas a wise Providence that reserved our *Confessor* last year for this purpose. The spreading of such Men with *Sugar-plum*, and *Servicemen* throw among the people, did *Strasford* a business, and you, and the Kings too. It was thought the ready road to sweetning and Quiet; but behold a Troop of Thousands yielding in one point made way to ask All, and the Multitude to believe all were guilty as well as one. A tacit Court confession of guilt by one Sentence, pass for Proof enough that all was true of the rest. If the same point can be gained again by it but an *ambushy* piece of work, so it amounts to a removal of any one principal Man; it may perhaps take the more easily, and do the rest as well, if not better: Shape your vengeance as it may not flatter the Nature of their Master. So Court places may fall one after another; their youth reward upon Earth, whatever else you may expect from Heaven.

Ply his Majesty with warm Clothes if ye can; tell him he is Just and Good; but Counsels are ill, or weak, no matter which. Drive any peg that will go; Sooth him, in hope to smite the other: A dogged humour of his *Adversary* will please the People; and plunge him: Stunt up difficulties, promote his necessities; then

work

work upon 'em : and make bold to tell him, only *new Friends* can remedy 'em : Read your Lectures backward, say the War was most advisable last year : when he had neither Preparations nor Money for it : but not now you have got him into it. Bring on *new Accounts of Growth of Popery and Arbitrary Government* : Charge them upon *evil Counsellors* : Be sure to lilt 'em : at any hand lilt 'em : Noyse may do it : ah. but Tumult is wanting : Then bane the Pope again, to fulfill the *Revolution* : that will draw together the Rabble. But forget not *Cakes and Ale for 'ems* : Poor valiant will do as much as *Prossimoury*, if you bid defiance to a *Standing-army*, though it be bat in the Clouds.

If this will not do in the City, then once again pers *Grand Jury-men* in the Counties, to Petition for a *New Parliament* : It was well and wisely done to send them down the late-Books, to inspire and quicken 'em : The *Judges* will not dare to hinder, if in the mean time you Rattle them roundly for what they have done. If you perceive them sturdy, then cast dirt at 'em : it will stick, and spout too, it being upon *Scarlets*. You have been of Late enow that have done you service, who gaze for their Places : 'Tis fit their mouths should be stoppt, that they may open with *Almsmen* at *Protogative and Allegiance*.

'Tis fine to see our *Scottish Friends* trace the old Method of 1640 : And how every thing hits to improve the Brotherly Correspondence : *Lords and Grievances* came then together out of *Scotland* : God send the good luck : you know what follow'd. They then went to Court one day, another day to *Contentions*, and *Conclaves*, in *haidens* : Advise them to do so now, A new bustle against that Government began *An. 1674*. We and our Party at the same time began the like bustle at *Westminsters* : They, and we have walkt haad in haad like Brethren ever since. What have we now to next, but to revive and raise that *Phenix* : the COVENANT, out of its Ashes?

Be it your Care to time the Business : my *Seate* *Confidants* here do say, no time so fit at home, as when the KING is Engaged abroad : then it will do the *French* work, and our *spous* *Methinks* 'tis fit : Misch when these four Nations play in Concert : and 'tis Glorious for *Scotland* : that it hath the Honour to *Lead the Dance*.

What

What a dull Brute of late is the Subject of *England* ! There-fore (as the old Song saith) *Blow Cap for me*. Our men of that Nation Write, Preach, and Fight too : they have got likewise the right knack of Distinction, and understand the way of Supplicating the KING'S Person against His Authority. The sum of all is, get out the great Lion there, and perhaps none else can Saddle or Mount 'em for His Majesties Service. I like that Course consulted by our good Friends, that if he cannot be impeached in *Seotland*, 'tis but turning the Table, and you may do it at *Westminster*. The Pitcher hath two Ears : if you cannot lay hold on one side, take him by t'other, and dash him to the ground : Remember his name is not only *Ladder-dail*, but *Guilford* too. The honest *Covenanters* have been whetting their Pens at him these Five years ; so have we our Spicens in *England*, we have spent the most part of our Gaul in Ink-pots ; Try what the rest will do in a round Charge or two. Nevertheless, write on still : I am sorry we have lost the *Prime Pen* : therefore make sure of *Andrew*. Hee's a shrewd man against *Papery*, though for his Religion you may place him, as *Pasquin* at Rome placed *Henry* the Eighth, betwixt *Moses*, the *Messiah*, and *Mabomet*, with this *Motto* in his Mouth, *quod me verum nescio*. 'Tis well he is now *Transposed* into *Policricks* : they say he had much ado to live upon *Poetry*. What a blunt fool the people's become ! No more in ? However, let him whet on till they take an Edge, and be sure, that you and the rest of our Countades whet him.

'Tis time now to Say, or Print any thing that will sharpen. Blacken the whole undertaking : Say, in this *Marching Army* is Conch'd a *Standing one*. Rant roundly at *Adjournments* : Say, *Neutrality* is better now when we are arm'd, than it was when we were not : Say all you can to befool the *Forain Confederacy*, and frustrate it : for, what was Wisdom last Summer, is none now. Do all you can to spoil this Meeting also ; then follow *No Money* : Urge that point long and loud : it may force the Court to do that for supply, which we may have occasion to Rail at afterwards and Rouse men with a *Winch*. I Ply the *Northern Supplicators*, and let them ply you.

Gather

Gather the Quakers and Fanatics under the wing, and show them how for Protestants for all the *Age of Conformity*: be kind, and give 'em a little *Opium*; So they may forget the tyranny of their Elder Brother, and be all one again, then the *New Cause* may prove as good as the *Old one*.

If you will hatch some what like a *Krausenbrout*, I like it well; go back to 41. There's your perpetual Pattern; matter enough to deal with any King in *Europe*: Nothing in Heaven can more fermentate and leaven the whole lump: But be sure you do not call it *Remembrance*; a new name will do better to cover the purpose; and for a new Model of State, and States-men, commend me to the *Nation's Proposition*, to begin with.

To crown the work, and make all things easie, only one thing is wanting to turn the World. *Archimedes*, to effect it, required but one point to stand on without the Circumference: Do you gain but one in the *Chart*, and you'll do it as readily; that is the King's Point. If He move, and tread never so little aside it, the stoutest will stagger, no man will stand to it.

Just now Letters are come hither from the *Hayes*, where two Twins are smugling in the Womb of their business; many thanks to you (Sir.) Whether the delivery will be now by the hand of a *French* Midwife, or an *English*, is not to be understood yet. They are come to the birth: Some would have the Name of the first-born to be *Prohibition*; others would have the second be named *Neutrality*, because he laid hold on the heel of his Brother; which is our Friends of *Love* might imagine, most signifie, that the Younger is to trip up the heels of the Elder.

Remember me, &c. and (to me) as directed to the mind of my former.

I am Yours, &c.

Amsterdam, 18th of

April, 1720.

Wm. Stile.

One this was a letter to the mind of my former, and I am Yours, &c.

